



DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

OF THE CITY OF GRIFFIN, GEORGIA

Bruce Ballard, *Chairman*
Otis Blake, III, *Vice Chairman*
Ryan McLemore • Daniel Searcy
Nat Doughtie • Joey Scanlon
Daa'ood Amin

Adam Causey, *Executive Director*

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

The January 17, 2011, meeting of the Downtown Development Authority was held in the Griffin Regional Welcome Center 8:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bruce Ballard.

Attendance: *Board members:* Bruce Ballard, Otis Blake III, Ryan McLemore, Joey Scanlon, Daa'ood Amin *Staff:* Kenny Smith, Drew Whalen, Adam Causey, Frederick Gardiner, Vicki Hyatt

On motion from Otis Blake, III, and second by Daa'ood Amin, and approved by all present with Chairman Ballard abstaining, the minutes from the meeting held on December 6, 2011, were approved.

Chairman's Report:

No report.

Financial Reports:

Mr. Causey reported on the financials from the Façade Grant account and Building Acquisition account.

DDA Director's Report:

- *Broad Street Block Plan and Pro Forma*
Mr. Causey reviewed the pro-forma for the development plan with the Board, including the potential for grant funding from the Federal Home Loan Bank in conjunction with the Griffin Housing Authority and from the Redevelopment Fund/CDBG at GA Department of Community Affairs.
- *West Solomon Street Parking Lot*
Mr. Causey discussed the parking lot on Solomon and 8th Street, as he visited area businesses to gauge the usage of the lot for employees and customers. Mr. Causey said the overwhelming response from business owners in the area was that the parking lot was utilized by their employees and sometimes customers, and that the City should continue to lease the lot for public use. Mr. Ballard suggested that



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there continue to be some dialogue with the property owner to install some upgrades in the parking lot with the any new lease agreement. Mr. Smith asked for a recommendation from the Board to take to the City Commission about the future of the parking lot. Mr. Amin asked what the city was paying for the lot. Mr. Smith replied that it costs \$6,000 per year plus taxes paid. Mr. Ballard remarked that local government budgets are constrained and it is difficult to continue to justify these expenses if the benefits are readily apparent. Mr. Ballard suggested that the city could try to negotiate property improvements with the next lease. Mr. Scanlon said that these parking lots matter to downtown businesses and visitors and that the city needs to be careful when considering their funding. Mr. Amin advised that the city has leverage while paying all costs associated with the property and should negotiate for improvements to the lot for the next lease term.

- *2012 Goals and Budget*

Mr. Causey updated the Board on staff goals and budget processes. City staff met to formulate calendar year 2012 goals and to gear up for the FY2013 budget. The City department goals for 2012 will be to complete those outstanding projects from last year, and for the DDA that means continuing with the Broad Street Block Plan and City Hall redevelopment. Mr. Causey briefly updated the Board on some interest in the City Hall property. Mr. Causey asked if the Board wanted to create a budget committee similar to the FY2012 budget process the previous year. Mr. Ballard said he would like to see the same thing happen this year. Mr. Causey said that at the next meeting he would ask for a budget committee to be appointed.

Other Business

- *Planning Department*

Vicki Hyatt reminded the Board of the One Town/One Goal neighborhood initiative to improve the area around Rushton Mills and that a tentative work day has been scheduled for April 21, 2012.



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Adjourn

On motion from Daa'ood Amin and second by Otis Blake, III, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

ATTEST:

Bruce Ballard
Chairman

Adam Causey
Executive Director